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(Encyclopedia of Mathematics
and Its Applications

January 17, 1979

Dr. Joshua Lederberg, President
Rockefeller University
New York, New York 10021

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you for the comments on the Encyclopedia you have been sending me from time to time. I appreciate your interest and hope you like the volumes that have appeared so far. Incidentally, if you have not yet received volumes one through six, please let me know and I will have them sent to you.

Our original conception of the Encyclopedia included separate sections on mathematics in the biological and social sciences, but I have recently decided to unify these sections with one section entitled "Mathematics in the Life Sciences". Our first volume for this section is ready to go to press and I would like to invite you to act as General Section Editor, writing a short essay of a philosophical sort introducing the section and book to our readers. It has been our experience with previous volumes that the inclusion of such an introductory essay by a well-known name provides an attractive introduction to a possibly unfamiliar topic.

I very much hope you will accept this invitation. If so, I will send you a copy of our first manuscript for this section entitled "Measurement Theory: With Applications to Decision-making, Utility, and the Social Sciences" by Fred Roberts.

With best regards,

Gian-Carlo Rota

Gian-Carlo Rota

GCR:lb

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